



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: SMD-135

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Hampl, Jr., et al.)
Serial No.: 10/618,096) Examiner: Dionne Walls Mayes
, ,) Art Unit: 1731
Filed: July 11, 2003)) Deposit Acct. No.: 04-1403
Title: Smoking Articles Having Reduced Carbon Monoxide Delivery) Client ID: 22827
·) Confirmation No.: 4956

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.131

We, Vladimir Hampl, Jr., Alice Gu, and Kerry Mahone, declare:

- 1. We are the inventors of the claims of the patent application identified above and the inventors of the subject matter described therein.
- 2. U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2004/0020504 of <u>Snaidr</u>, et al. filed Mar. 14, 2003 which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/364,137, filed on Mar. 15, 2002, and U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2004/0250828 of <u>Luan</u>, et al. filed on June 13, 2003 were cited against the claims in the Office Action dated June 9, 2006.
- 3. Prior to March 15, 2002 and June 13, 2003, we reduced our invention to practice as described and claimed in the subject application.
- 4. As evidence of our reduction of practice prior to Mar. 15, 2002 and June 13, 2003, attached are lab notebook pages dated on Oct. 18, 23, and 26 of 2001. The attached notebook pages show that cigarette wrapper handsheets were made containing various fillers including iron oxide fillers. The handsheets were formed into cigarettes and tested using a smoking machine. The mainstream smoke was collected and analyzed for

carbon monoxide. As shown in the results, the cigarettes incorporating the handsheets containing yellow iron oxide produced lower amounts of carbon monoxide.

- 5. We acknowledge all statements made of our own knowledge in this declaration to be true and all statements made on information and belief in this declaration are believed to be true.
- 6. We further acknowledge that willful false statements and the like made in this declaration are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

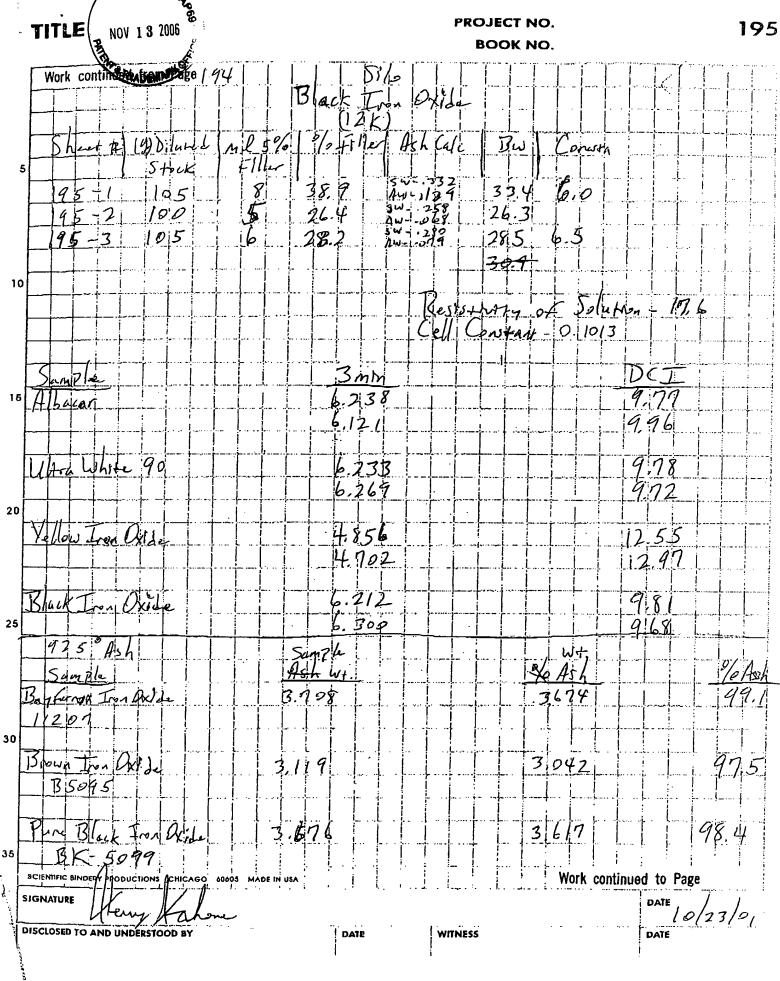
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